

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendment and remarks. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-6, 8-19, and 21-29 are pending in this application. Claims 7 and 20 are hereby canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 1 and 15, which are independent, are hereby amended. Claims 26-29 have been added.

No new matter has been introduced. Support for this Amendment is provided through the Application as originally filed, and specifically on pages 8-10 and Figure 3.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-13 and 15-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over WO 00/28436 to Koninklijke Philips Electronics (hereinafter, merely "Philips") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,848,104 to Van Ee et al. (hereinafter, merely "Van Ee"). Claims 14 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Philips in view of Van Ee and in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,781,518 to Hayes et al.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*:

“... wherein said control apparatus changes settings of at least one of GUI data, internal processing data, and display data, which are contained in said control apparatus, based on at least one of **GUI data, internal processing data, and display data, which are stored or designated as Extensible Markup Language (XML) meta-data** by said first server, and

wherein communication data communicated among said control apparatus, said first server, and said second server comprise meta-data encoded in the Extensible Markup Language (XML).” (Emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Phillips relates to a server which has access to an inventory of devices and capabilities on a user's home network. The server also has access to a database with information of features for a network. The server determines if the synergy of the apparatus present on the user's network can be enhanced based on the listing of the inventory and on the user's profile. If there are features that are relevant to the synergy, based on these criteria, the user gets notified. (See Abstract)

As understood by Applicants, Van Ee relates to tasking systems and methods that support user interfaces for displaying objects, the displayed objects enabling user access to resources that provide for effecting tasks among the system and devices of the system's environment. Tasking systems and methods preferably support the tracking of selected states, including, as examples, one or more of environmental states, device states, and system states. (See Abstract)

Applicants respectfully submit that nothing has been found in Phillips or Van Ee that would teach or suggest the above-quoted features of claim 1. Specifically, the combination of Phillips and Van Ee does not teach or suggest that GUI data, internal processing data, and/or display data are stored or designated as Extensible Markup Language (XML) meta-data.

Further, Phillips and Van Ee do not teach or suggest that communication data communicated among said control apparatus, said first server, and said second server comprise meta-data encoded in the Extensible Markup Language (XML), all as recited in claim 1.

Applicants' Specification teaches on page 8 (lines 19-22) the desirability of this feature:

“The data server 100 stores various control data, graphical user interface (GUI) data, internal processing data, display data, electronic program guide data (EPG) data, and the like for the remote control 120 which controls the home appliances 130. The data are stored as extensible markup language (XML) meta-data or the like, and hence the data can be handled as the single type of data, regardless of the type of apparatus.” (Emphasis added)

That is, the Specification teaches that storing system-related data as meta-data encoded in the Extensible Markup Language (XML) creates a uniform data format for all appliance types.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable.

Claim 15 is similar in scope and is therefore patentable for similar reasons.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 15 are in condition for allowance.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

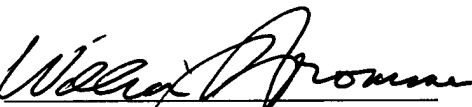
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the references providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance and request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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